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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061 Rockville, MD 20852 USA

August 26, 1999 HeSk/NSH



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Novo Nordisk A/S

Novo Allé 2880 Bagsvaerd Denmark

Tel. +45 4444 8888 Fax.+4544490555 Telex37173

A/S Reg. No. 16201

[Docket No. 99D-1454]

Gentlemen:

Draft Guidance for Industry on Nasal Spray and inhalation Solution, Suspension, and Spray Drug Products; Chemistry, Manufacturing, and Controls Documentation

Novo **Nordisk** A/S has reviewed the above draft and would like to comment as follows.

Lines 372-373

We suggest that the sentence "Chromatographic retention time alone is not an adequate method to ensure the identity of the drug substance in the drug product" be changed to "If a chromatographic method is used, the method should be sufficiently specific to properly verify the identity of the drug substance by the retention time." An example of such **a** method is the pharmacopoeia1 identity test of human, bovine or porcine insulin in insulin drug products.

Lines 388-395

We suggest the nomenclature in this section be changed. According to the ICH guideline, Topic **Q6B** "Specifications: Test procedure+ and Acceptance Criteria for **Biotechnological/Biological** Products"; **impurities** and degradation products should be classified as "Process-related impurities", "Product related impurities" or "Product related substances".

Lines 397-402

The requirement for stabilizing excipient(s) assay seems too stringent and we suggest the following approach:

The use of stabilizing excipients should be justified and documented during investigational studies, so that a specific assay on the finished drug

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product specification may be unnecessary. Such documentation may include data on the content of excipient during investigational studies to demonstrate there is no significant loss to primary **packaging** material (from neither excipient nor the active drug substance), proper process validation data showing consistent content of excipient at release within defined acceptance criteria, and **cGMP** documentation **of the** manufacturing process.

Lines 812-815

The requirement in the following sentence seems to stringent: "For device-metered nasal or inhalation spray drug products designed for use with replaceable reservoirs, the device should be specific for the intended formulation reservoir only and should not allow use of an alternate reservoir that contains a different formulation." We suggest that the sentence be supplemented by the following: "If a device can be used with different formulation reservoirs (e.g., different potencies of a drug substance), it must include a feature clearly indicating the formulation contained in the reservoir."

Lines 1057-1 062

As some drug products require cold storage, we suggest that test storage conditions include requirements for temperature and humidity for cold storage.

We suggest the lines are changed to the following: "For drug products packaged in semipermeable containers (e.g., low density polyethylene) without protective packaging, the above test storage conditions should be replaced with the following conditions:

Storage under controlled temperature: (1) accelerated (40±2°C/15±5%RH), (2) intermediate (30±2°C/40±5%RH), if applicable, and (3) long-term (25±2°C/40±5%RH).

Storage under refrigerated conditions: 1) accelerated (25±2°C/40±5%RH), (2) long-term (5±3°C/no specific limits for humidity).

Line 1121

The requirement for **setting** the expiration dating period based on full **shelf**-life stability studies does not appear to be in accordance with the

requirement in the ICH Q1A Stability Guideline for 12 months' stability data at submission.

Sincerely,

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Helle Skar

Helle Skov MSc (pharm), PhD Health Care Quality QA Insulin Coordination

A Prioritaire



Novo **Nordisk A/S** Novo Allé 2880 Bagsværd Danmark

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(Docket No. 99D-1454)



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